



Information for Political Party Qualification

Montana Secretary of State

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◆ Filing Deadlines ([13-10-601](#), MCA)

- **March 5, 2018** Deadline to submit signed political party qualification [petitions](#) and [affidavits](#) of signature gatherers to [county election administrators](#)
- **March 12, 2018** Deadline for political party candidates to file Declaration and Oath of Candidacy and pay filing fee (unless indigent) to appropriate filing officer

◆ Links:

- [Political Party Qualification Petition](#)
- [Affidavit of Signature Gatherer](#)
- [Candidate Calendar](#)
- [Title 13 Election Laws](#)

◆ Signature Requirements ([13-10-601](#), MCA)

- According to [13-10-601](#), MCA, the number of signatures required for political party ballot access is **5,000**, which must include the registered voters in at least 34 House districts equal to 5% or more of the total votes cast for the successful candidate for governor at the last general election in those districts (*or 150 electors in those districts, whichever is less; see table below*).
- There is **no earliest date** to gather political party qualification petition signatures or to submit signed political party qualification petitions to county election administrators. (However, candidate declaration forms cannot be filed with the appropriate filing officer before **January 11, 2018**, or the date by which the party is qualified, whichever is later.)

◆ Other Information

- A current list of qualified political parties is at sosmt.gov/Elections/Parties.
- If the party qualifies for ballot access, the deadline by which party candidates must file their filing form with the required filing fee is **March 12, 2018**. See [13-10-201](#), MCA. A candidate who files as an [indigent](#) candidate is not required to pay the filing fee, but must file petition signatures. See [Filing Information and Petition Signature Requirements for indigent candidate requirements](#).
- Under [13-10-602](#), MCA, and [HB 103](#), a political party and its regularly nominated candidates, members, and officers have the sole and exclusive right to the use of the party name. A candidate for office may not use any word of the name of any other political party or organization other than that by which the candidate is nominated in a manner that indicates or implies the individual is a candidate of the nonnominating party.



Signatures Required for Political Party Qualification † Montana Secretary of State

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House District	Votes for Last Successful Candidate for Governor	Petition Signatures Required (5% of Votes Cast for Last Successful Candidate for Governor)	House District	Votes for Last Successful Candidate for Governor	Petition Signatures Required (5% of Votes Cast for Last Successful Candidate for Governor)
1	1,720	86	51	2,160	108
2	1,588	80	52	2,184	110
3	2,271	114	53	2,577	129
4	1,793	90	54	2,600	130
5	3,411	150	55	2,092	105
6	2,340	117	56	2,004	101
7	1,991	100	57	1,813	91
8	1,927	97	58	2,775	139
9	1,526	77	59	2,650	133
10	2,299	115	60	3,260	150
11	1,699	85	61	4,556	150
12	2,528	127	62	4,824	150
13	1,826	92	63	3,078	150
14	2,039	102	64	3,278	150
15	2,138	107	65	4,105	150
16	2,721	137	66	4,110	150
17	2,143	108	67	2,323	117
18	1,780	89	68	2,102	106
19	2,035	102	69	2,179	109
20	2,795	140	70	2,683	135
21	2,690	135	71	2,606	131
22	2,398	120	72	2,272	114
23	2,239	112	73	3,441	150
24	2,383	120	74	3,066	150
25	2,287	115	75	2,786	140
26	1,641	83	76	4,156	150
27	2,269	114	77	3,269	150
28	2,418	121	78	2,092	105
29	1,865	94	79	3,930	150
30	2,031	102	80	2,625	132
31	2,073	104	81	3,481	150
32	2,170	109	82	3,598	150
33	1,615	81	83	3,227	150
34	1,911	96	84	3,146	150
35	1,085	55	85	2,204	111
36	1,220	61	86	2,742	138
37	1,349	68	87	2,040	102
38	1,786	90	88	2,469	124
39	1,613	81	89	3,297	150
40	1,971	99	90	3,766	150
41	1,584	80	91	5,306	150
42	2,149	108	92	2,765	139
43	2,089	105	93	2,287	115
44	2,284	115	94	3,148	150
45	1,777	89	95	3,610	150
46	2,744	138	96	2,996	150
47	2,367	119	97	2,742	138
48	2,725	137	98	3,437	150
49	2,106	106	99	3,530	150
50	2,221	112	100	4,916	150

† The total number of certified signatures required for political party qualification is 5,000. The number of signatures must include the verified signatures of registered voters in at least 34 legislative districts equal to 5% or more of the total votes cast for the successful candidate for governor at the last general election in those districts or 150 electors in those districts, whichever is less. [13-10-601](#), MCA.